

WSDOT Ferries Division

NATION'S LARGEST FERRY SYSTEM

January 2017

Key system facts

- Created June 1, 1951
- Largest ferry system in the United States
- 24.2 million riders in 2016
- Second largest ferry system in the world for number of vehicles carried (10.5 million per year)
- Fleet of 22 auto-passenger ferries
- Operates 20 terminals on 10 routes
- Approximately 1,800 employees
- 16 unions and 13 collective bargaining agreements

Transit agency

- Third largest transit system in Washington (#1 King County Metro, #2 Sound Transit)
- Busiest route: Seattle/Bainbridge Island (more than 6.4 million riders per year)
- Largest ferries: Jumbo Mark II Class
 - 2,500 passengers
 - 202 vehicles
- Smallest ferries: Kwa-di -Tabil Class
 - 748 passengers
 - 64 vehicles

Marine highway

- Part of state highway network, serving eight counties and British Columbia, Canada
- Critical links between urban areas on the east side of Puget Sound and growing communities on the Kitsap and Olympic peninsulas and San Juan Islands
- For the communities of Vashon Island and the San Juan Islands, provides the only practical link for vehicles – personal and commercial – to the mainland

Link in region's multimodal connections

- Priority loading for freight, bicycles, vanpools and carpools
- Park and ride lots at or near ferry terminals
- Schedule integration with our transit partners
- Vehicle reservations from Anacortes to Sidney, B.C., and the San Juan Islands, as well as between Port Townsend and Coupeville (Whidbey Island)

Mover of freight and goods

- WSF vessels are specially constructed to accommodate commercial vehicles
- Primary link for goods and services to Vashon Island and the San Juan Islands
- Priority loading reservation system for commercial vehicles in San Juan Islands

Tourism, economic development

- Major tourist attraction and icon of Washington state
- Gateway to San Juan Islands, British Columbia and the Olympic Peninsula
- Critical link between more affordable housing on the west side of Puget Sound and key employment centers on the east side

Safe, secure travel

- WSF works with the Washington State Patrol and U.S. Coast Guard to implement security measures to ensure the safety and security of passengers
- As a port of entry and border crossing, WSF works with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to ensure the security of the U.S. border



<https://twitter.com/wsferries>

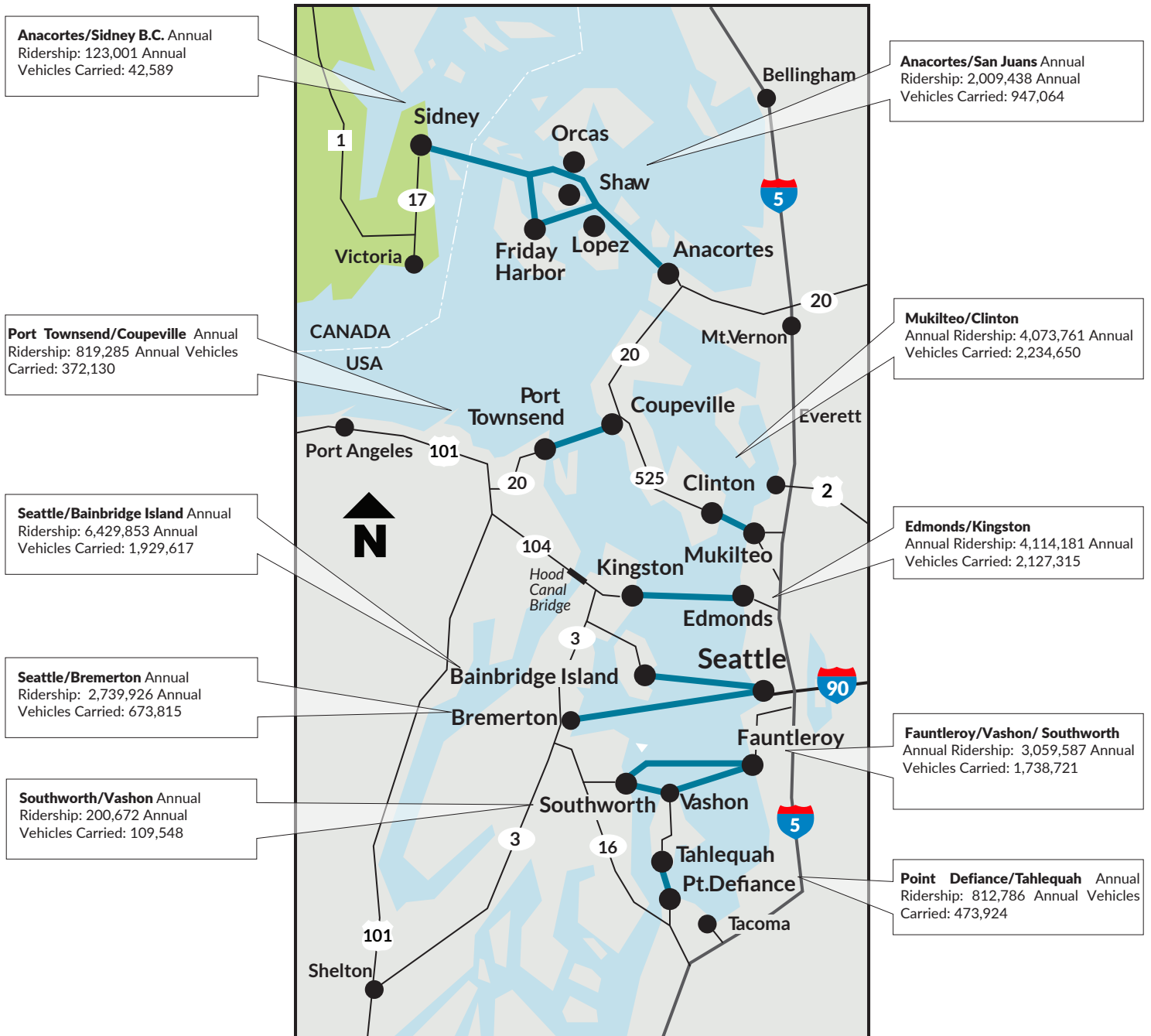
Website: www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries



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Ridership statistics

Ridership numbers are based on 2016 statistics



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